

## Manufacturing and Post-Processing of Metal Products

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This broad activity group applies to mills, foundries, and fabricators that manufacture and/or post-process metal products at stationary sites. It does not apply to temporary activities such as welding or pipe cutting that are conducted in the field. A variety of activities such as machining, grinding, soldering, cutting, welding, quenching, cooling, and rinsing may take place. Wastewater from these operations may be contaminated with toxic organic compounds, heavy metals, oils and greases, abnormal pH, and suspended solids. Stormwater runoff from areas where these activities occur can be contaminated with these same pollutants as well. These businesses may be required to apply for and obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the Washington State Department of Ecology. See Chapter 5 for a discussion of NPDES requirements. Note that painting, finishing, and coating of metal products is covered under a different activity in this manual.

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices are required if you are engaged in manufacturing or processing metal products:**

**1**

Discharge process wastewater from this activity to a sanitary sewer, holding tank, or process treatment system.



See BMP Info Sheet 2 in Chapter 4 for information on disposal options.

**2**

**Required** Routine Maintenance

- Sweep the pouring area at the end of each day to collect metal fragments and debris. Do not hose down the area to a storm drain.

### **Additional BMPs**

**The following BMPs are not required but they can provide improved pollution control:**



Cover the activity area(s) to prevent precipitation from contacting the area, and to reduce the amount of runoff that has to be detained or treated.



See BMP Info Sheet 3 in Chapter 4 for information on covering options.



Use a catch basin insert configured to remove sediment, to capture stray metal particles in runoff. Clean the area regularly to prevent "washing" of trapped particles and conversion to highly toxic dissolved state. Catch basin inserts require frequent maintenance to be effective. Carefully consider this requirement when evaluating your options.



See BMP Info Sheet 9 in Chapter 4 for information on inserts.

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For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Stormwater Services Section at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.